

EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

January 21, 2016

Burlington Building

Members Present: Kari Enget, Curt Halmrast, Lynn Hartman, June Herman, Jerry Jurena, Tim Meyer, Chet Pollert, Ken Reed, Jeff Sather, Diane Witteman

Members Not Present: Terry Ault, Lynette Dickson, Karin Mongeon

DoH Representation: Tom Nehring, Kelli Sears, Lindsey Narloch, Shila Thorson, Jan Franklund, Amanda Roehrich, Nicole Brunelle, Linda Zahn, and Kari Kuhn

Others Present: Shannon Rudland, Sandy O'Connor, Joe Lies, Sherm Syverson, Nathan Presnell, and Jim DeMell

Tim Meyer welcomed the committee and introductions were made around the table.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made: EMSAC approval of November 19, 2015 meeting minutes.

Motion made by Ken Reed; seconded by Diane Witteman

No further discussion; motion carried.

Program Reports

- Brief program updates were given by DEMST staff members

Subcommittee Reports

- Funding Area Grants
 - a. The Attributes of Successful Rural Ambulance Services will be used as an assessment tool rather than the Rural EMS Improvement Project tool used in previous grant cycles
 - b. 'Collaboration' has been changed to /system development'
 - c. The cover letter will outline some upcoming changes
 - i. Two-year grant cycle
 - ii. Required attendance at one of the 8 coming regional meetings
 - iii. Putting limitations on spending – different items for each grant cycle with assigned amounts
 - d. Movement towards requirement of quality improvement program
 - i. Possible bonus for this cycle
 - e. Mil Levy and professional financial statements
- System Development
 - a. Outlined in HB 1044 development of EMS system
 - b. Base system development on patient care and best use of funding sources
 - c. Appropriate use of ambulance services, substations and first responders
 - d. Working on setting up 8 regional meetings for early 2016
 - e. Composing a position paper to outline the problem

- f. Model is unsure at this point, but will be different than the current state of things
- g. Medical Direction
 - i. Minimum standards regarding medical direction
 - 1. Attend state medical director meeting
 - 2. Attend at least one meeting with the service
 - ii. Funding for medical direction
 - 1. Ambulance pay
 - 2. State funds
- h. Look at best practices of successful services
- i. Education needs to happen quickly amongst legislators, ambulance services, etc.
- j. Possible five-year plan
- k. Funding area grant used as a tool to move towards system development

CQI Discussion – Tom Nehring

- Tom made handouts available to council members and asked for them to be distributed

Protocol Development – Kelli Sears / Dr Sathers

- The protocols are nearing completion

Transport Plans Discussion – Kelli Sears / Dr Sathers

- Transport plan templates are being created and will be available for services to personalize as their own
- This will be a topic of discussion at the 8 regional meetings

Update – Rules – Tom Nehring

- Not possible to meet February 24 date
- May 10, 2016 moving forward rule changes
- Immediacy of PCR reporting
 - Push back from larger ambulance services
 - EMSAC previously voted to recommend language be written to convey an emphasis on immediacy with exceptions to allow up to 24-hours drop off
- Is a level of EMR required to act as a ‘first responder’ in a community
 - Dispatch issues
 - No control over who is responding
 - No vehicle requirement
- Lots of things being suggested to move from rule to policy
- Review is being done by Dr Dwelle and Arvy
- Schedule a rule review meeting before the public hearing
- Service Area Discussion
 - Service areas are established by the 911 coordinator / emergency manager
 - Does not prevent responding to calls outside of service area
 - No requirement for approval by DEMST
 - Future project of language proposal for rule
 - Also part of system development
 - Sherm will compose draft verbiage

Ambulance Service Self-Assessment and Implementation Plans – Dr Sather

- Dr Sather helped with the development of this tool
- Tom will be writing instructions for this
- This will be used as part of the funding area grant application

Update – Air Medical – Tom Nehring

- Federal court complaint from Valley Med challenging the changes made in statute
 - States are not allowed to determine rates, routes and services
 - Answered by Doug Bahr, Solicitor General
 - It is currently before the federal judge
 - Expected 2 – 4 months for response
 - Submitted on September 30
 - Rules will not be promulgated until the law suit is decided
 - Dr Dwelle was the named individual representing the health department
 - Work Force Safety was also a named party in the complaint
- No new information at this time

Medical Directors and Potential Liability

- Tom was contacted regarding a question regarding malpractice insurance coverage of a medical director in their regular full-time position vs in their medical director role with small volunteer service
- No recommendation needed
- Another part of system development

Upcoming Agenda Items

- If anybody has items for upcoming agendas contact Tim Meyer, Tom Nehring or Kari Kuhn

Schedule 2016 EMSAC Meeting Dates

April 21, 2016

July 21, 2016

Oct 20, 2016

Other Business

- Funding Grant subcommittee meeting should meet again in coordination with the EMSAC meeting
- People are invited to join subcommittee meetings and information will be spread out to more people
- 2nd Annual Rural EMS Conference is scheduled for San Antonio Texas; April 21 – 22, 2016